

NEWCASTLE-EMLYN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT FOR 1946.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report herewith for 1946 :—
Area 206 acres, Population 765, Houses 259, Rateable Value
£2857. Rate 20 shillings in the pound. Product of a Penny
Rate, £11 18s. 1d.

The town is situated at the meeting place of three
counties, and serves as a shopping centre for the adjacent agricul-
tural areas of Carmarthenshire, Cardiganshire and Pembrokeshire
Development is seriously impaired by the smallness of its area.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births 13 (17 per 1000 population, of England and Wales 19.1).
Deaths 9 (11.76 do. do. 11.5).

TUBERCULOSIS.—Ten cases remain on the register,
but only one seems to be an active case. One case died during
the year. Patients and relatives remain very reluctant to try
Sanatorium treatment.

VENEREAL DISEASE.—The incidence of this seems
to be small; domiciliary treatment is now available to all by
means of Penicillin, which has revolutionised the situation in
regard to these diseases.

No case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum has been reported.

No illegitimate births have occurred.

I regret to inform you that one house has had to be
dis-infested with D D T. for Bed Bugs, apparently brought over
from Germany by a soldier.

DIPHTHERIA.—Only 3 out of 104 children have not
been immunised between the ages of 5 and fifteen; between 1
and 5, two only are not immunised. No case of Diphtheria has
been reported.

WATER SUPPLY.—The Baeteriologists report was very satisfactory. Much is expected of the new Hydro-Ejectors to be installed in the near future, to raise the effective height to which this commodity may be obtained. Progress has been made with the laying of new pipes, to replace the fifty year old ones.

DRAINAGE, etc.—Repairs are frequently necessary and are being made. The whole system is out of date, and wants re-planning and re-laying. Disposal by open irrigation into, though not direct into, the River Teifi, must not be tolerated in this modern age. Pollution of the river is not obvious or obnoxious, but it is present.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Apart from a few cases of Measles and Whooping Cough, the incidence of these diseases remains low.

FACTORIES.—The Shirt Factory, Egg Grading Station and Cheese Factory are clean and sanitary, and are well managed.

HOUSING.—The new housing scheme, which you are so keen on, is temporarily held up ; it must not remain so, as the houses are urgently needed ; many of our present houses are below normal standard, and several are definitely insanitary. I would personally like to see about twenty of them go out of use as dwelling places.

Much development lies ahead of you, with water schemes and new sewage systems, and probably a new upper grade school, and a new Hall. As I shall be replaced by a full time M.O.H., I wish you well, and thank you for your generous support and courtesy, over these last ten years of my tenure of office.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

J. PENRY, F.R.C.S., Eng.

Medical Officer of Health.

